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CAUSES OF CONFLICT AND THE PROMOTION OF DURABLE PEACE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 10 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a joint communiqué on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued by the Presidents of Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania on 5 May 1999 in Dodoma, Tanzania (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 46 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Daudi N. MWAKAWAGO
Ambassador

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Annex

Joint communiqué on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued by the Presidents of Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania on 5 May 1999

1. At the invitation of Benjamin Mkapa, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Yoweri Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, Pasteur Bizimungu, President of the Republic of Rwanda, and President Mkapa held a meeting in Dodoma, United Republic of Tanzania, on 4 and 5 May 1999.

2. Also invited to participate in the summit was Major General Paul Kagame, Vice-President and Minister for Defence of the Republic of Rwanda.

3. The summit reviewed current developments in the ongoing conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and focused on the way forward towards achieving a peaceful solution to the conflict in the framework of the Southern African Development Community Lusaka Peace Initiative and Process. In this regard, it took note of the Sirte Peace Agreement as a contribution to the Lusaka Peace Process.

4. The summit reaffirmed the need for a peaceful solution to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In this connection, it urged all the parties to the conflict to urgently put in place a cessation of hostilities and a cease-fire agreement in the interest of peace and stability of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the other countries in the region.

5. The summit reaffirmed the need for peace, unity, reconciliation and reconstruction in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as well as an all-inclusive national dialogue of the stakeholders to discuss and determine the new political dispensation in the country. In this regard, the summit welcomed President Laurent Kabila's expressed readiness to hold direct talks with the rebels.

6. The summit noted with grave concern the security implications of the reorganization, arming and deployment of the genocidal forces in the region.

7. At the conclusion of the summit, which is a milestone in advancing the peace process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, President Museveni, President Bizimungu and Vice-President Kagame expressed their gratitude to President Mkapa for the warm hospitality accorded to them.